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Swede's Gaza children's funeral shot wins World Press Photo



This handout photo taken by Swedish photographer Paul Hansen and released by the World Press Photo shows the bodies of two year-old Suhaib Hijazi and her three-year-old brother Muhammad. (AFP)

A photo of Gazans taking two children and their father killed in an Israeli air strike for burial has won the 2013 World Press Photo award for Swedish photographer Paul Hansen, judges said Friday.

The staff shooter for the Dagens Nyheter daily took the image of the funeral procession carrying two-year-old Suhaib Hijazi and his three-year-old brother Muhammad down an alley in Gaza City on November 20, 2012.

"The strength of the pictures lies in the way it contrasts the anger and sorrow of the adults with the innocence of the children," said Mayu Mohanna, jury member from Peru. "It's a picture I will not forget."

The children's father Fouad was also killed in the air strike and their mother was put in intensive care. He was carried behind his children in the procession.

Cardiologist Dr. Cheng concerned about Aruba's obesity

Aruba is in the "Top 3" countries in the world with respect to overweight and obesity. Reportedly, this is a very negative "Top 3" which has very grave consequences for our people and for medical care, according to Cardiologist Dr. Cheng.

Cheng, a specialist in cardiovascular diseases expressed his concern in a very sincere manner. He explained that there is reason for concern. Aruba and Curacao are among the countries with the highest percentage of patients needing dialysis. Cheng reported that his consulting office is full everyday with patients suffering from heart diseases.

The concept of using exercise as medicine is not new to Dr. Cheng. In his specialization this is one of the subjects included as part of his daily practice. He considers the introduction of "Exercise as Medicine" by means of a protocol something very positive for Aruba and for which he renders his total support. Cheng, however, asserts that this project must be a team effort, where primary care physicians, specialists, as well as paramedics, physiotherapists and nutritionists all work together for the welfare of the patient.

Cheng is emphatic about... "Prevention is better than cure!" We must all work together to help patients to stay healthy so that they wouldn't need medical attention until much later in life. Today, patients go to Dr. Cheng or other Cardiologist when they have already had an event which has changed their lives - a heart attack. In most cases this is because of the consequence of obesity, overweight, diabetes, smoking, hypertension or simply the lack of exercise, according to Dr. Cheng.

According to Cheng, the best treatment for a patient is not simply the medicine prescribed, the chemotherapy.



Dr. Cheng.

with chronic conditions. The goal of the "Exercise is Medicine" should be implemented from the first line of care which is at the Primary Care Physician, for those who have not yet gone to a specialist. Working in a team effort we can help prevent these chronic illnesses, says Cheng.

"Exercise is Medicine" is a concept which exists in many countries for many years, but is a brand new concept for Aruba. With the introduction of the protocol "Exercise is Medicine" under the Ministry of



Proper care, such as reducing weight, doing exercise and eating healthy contributes to complementing the chemotherapy.

Patients for whom Cheng prescribes exercise as medicine are those already living

Health, they are seeking to aim for cooperation among Primary Care Physicians, specialists as well as paramedics, so that Aruba can become a healthier country with a better quality of life.



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Thousands warmed their hearts this Valentine's Day on Aruba's One Happy Island in Times Square



Valentine's Day on Aruba's One Happy Island in Times Square

Aruba, One happy island, invited New York City residents and visitors to celebrate their love this Valentine's

Day on a heated pop-up beach in Times Square. Thousands of people stopped by Aruba's heated paradise, where couples enjoyed hourly trip giveaways to the One happy island, photo opportunities under the famous Fofoti tree, and warmth and relaxation.

The romance continued at 6 p.m. when more than 250 couples renewed their vows during a ceremony on the iconic Red Steps in Times Square, followed by a private reception on the pop-up beach. The ceremony was broadcast live on the American Eagle Times Square Digital Billboard and webcast live at TimesSquareNYC.org. One lucky couple won a second honeymoon to Aruba, including roundtrip airfare for two and a four night/ five day stay at the Divi & Tamarijn Aruba All Inclusives. The Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino and Amsterdam Manor Beach Resort also provided trip giveaways throughout the day.

Lovebirds outside of New York City were also invited to share and renew their own love stories through [Aruba's Facebook page](#) for a chance to win a second honeymoon to One happy island.

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Dr. Reeberg named January Employee of the Month

Every month our local Hospital dedicates some time to thank someone for their tremendous work and dedication. The past week the Board of Directors of the Hospital got together and named Dr. Erny Reeberg as the employee of the month of January 2013.

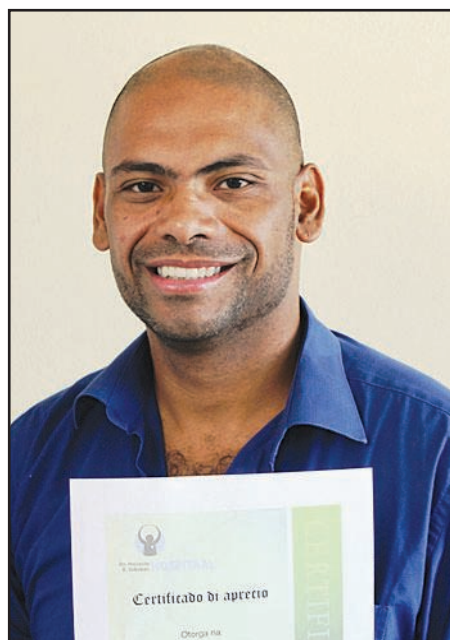
Dr. Erny Reeberg works at the emergency care since 2008, and is known for his dedication as an employee and as physician. During the past 8 months Dr. Reeberg dedicated himself unconditionally to the improvement process of the emergency care and at the hospital in general. Along with this, he is active in other activities beyond his department supporting the vision of our hospital.

Together with his team, Reeberg works diligently to offer the best of medical care to each patient. Important to mention that even during his free time and even when he is on sick leave, he is willing to return to work to help out

when this is necessary.

Accompanying photos show Dr. Reeberg showing off his certificate; and Dr. Reeberg in the company of Dr. Jaime Falconi of the Board of Directors, Imelda de Palm and Gino Paskel, Ezzard Cilie, Dr. Daryanani, and colleagues of the emergency care department.

Heartfelt congratulations to Dr. Reeberg for his excellent work and ... "pabien" with your achievement as Employee of the Month!



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Roses are red, violets are blue ...

Holiday Inn with it's slogan "Great Hotels, Guest Love" organized an activity for the employees to celebrate Valentine's Day together



Globally IHG (Intercontinental Hotels Group) has a slogan of Love for it's Employees and Guests. The slogan "Great Hotels, Guest Love" used by all the Hotels that pertains to IHG demonstrates with this the Love & Value that each person should be treated with. But in this particular case, on the day of love which is Valentine's Day, Holiday Inn Resort Aruba's Social Committee Team, organized an event where all the employees celebrated this special day as brothers and sisters. This way they were remembered that only through Love for one an-

other you gain appreciation, respect, dedication and professionalism together. We always have to remember those we love, but we never should forget those we appreciate in our professional life, and these are our fellow colleagues. They are not your biological family but they are the ones you spend most of your day with. Reason enough for co-workers to appreciate each other and show that you care. Management like to thank the Social Committee Team of the Holiday Inn Resort Aruba and all Employees who made this event a romantic one.



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Cardinal says Latin American or African pope possible

VATICAN CITY - Cardinal Kurt Koch, a close aide of Pope Benedict who will cast his vote for the next leader of the Roman Catholic Church, says there is no reason why the new pontiff cannot be African or Latin American.

Koch, head of the Vatican department that deals with Christian unity and relations with Jews, also said he had had no doubt that Pope Benedict would resign rather than rule for life, and said that future popes would be free to do the same.

"The challenges of the Church in the world are very different on different continents: in Africa, in Asia, in Latin America. The question is 'where will the challenges be greater, on which continent, should it be a pope for, above all, Latin America, for Africa

...," Koch said in an interview.

"I can imagine taking a step towards a black pope, an African pope or a Latin American pope. I can imagine this."

Koch, 62, a soft-spoken Swiss, will be one of the 117 cardinals under the age of 80 who are eligible to enter a secretive conclave to elect the next pope that is expected to start in mid-March.

There has been much speculation in the Church on whether the man to succeed Benedict should be a non-European, which would be a first in more than a millennium.

While the Church in Europe is polarized and has dwindling congregations, the Church in Africa is growing and in Latin America it remains large and vibrant despite inroads by Protestant evangelical groups.

Tony Ierullo gets his birthday 65th wish: A week in Aruba with his family

As Tony Ierullo's landmark 65th birthday approached, his wife Connie wanted to make sure it was something special. "My dad is not a very materialistic person," explains his daughter, Mary Sardellitti, "he is not big on gifts and parties. Family is important to him, so my mom decided that a family vacation in the place of his choice would be much more appreciated. She knows her husband well. She let him decide where we would go for his birthday, and he wanted to return to Aruba with the family. He had been here 17 years ago and absolutely loved it. This was the spot for him to celebrate this landmark event."

Connie made all the arrangements for them to



Tony and Connie with their son and daughter

of the mountain," and we did both. We took the submarine ride, which is right here next to in town, and a safari-type tour that took us to the top of

Aruba's highest point. The view was breathtaking. I understand now why my father so fell in love with Aruba after his first visit"

Tony is thrilled with his birthday gift, providing memories for him and all the family they will treasure always. "Times like these, with loved ones, are beyond price," he believes, and has always taught his children; they agree. "He always thought the valuable things in life were shared experiences and adventures," recalls Mary. "This trip to Aruba together is a perfect example of what he was talking about; we will always remember this wonderful time."

Rosalie Klein



Tony and Connie Ierullo with their grandchildren

travel their homes in Ontario, Canada to Aruba to stay at the Renaissance Beach Suites Resort. This includes Mary and her husband Frank, and their three kids, Matthew, Andrew and Ava, plus her brother, Uncle Vince.

"We are all having the most wonderful time," observes Mary, "especially the kids. It has been such a joy for us to see the wonder in their eyes when we went snorkeling and touring. We promised my father we would 'take him to the bottom of the sea and the top



The Ierullo Family enjoy a breezy vacation on Aruba

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Wife of missing US Vice-Consul to Curacao charged

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Abby Beard Hogan, a Gainesville, Florida lawyer, was charged in a seven-count indictment filed yesterday in the Northern District of Florida for her alleged role in the obstruction of a multi-national investigation into the disappearance of her husband, James Hogan, then an employee in the U.S. Consulate in Curacao, announced Assistant Attorney General Lanny A. Breuer of the Criminal Division; U.S. Attorney Pamela Cothran Marsh for the Northern District of Florida; Ambassador Eric J. Boswell of the Bureau of Diplomatic Security; and John V. Gillies, Special Agent in Charge of the FBI's Miami Field Office.

Abby Hogan, 50, was charged with two counts of making false statements to federal law enforcement officials, one count of witness tampering, and four counts of obstruction of justice. According to the indictment, on the night of Sept. 24, 2009, James Hogan, an employee at the U.S. Consulate in Curacao, a Caribbean island that was part of the Netherlands Antilles, left his home on foot and sub-



James Hogan

sequently disappeared. The next day, a diver located his blood-stained clothing on a local beach. American officials and the government of Curacao and the Kingdom of the Netherlands opened an investigation into the disappearance of James Hogan.

The indictment alleges that, during the course of the investigation, Abby Hogan repeatedly provided false information to U.S. law enforcement about the time period before James Hogan's disappearance and withheld relevant information. Abby Hogan allegedly denied, among other things, that she was having an extramarital affair and that she and her hus-

band had argued about the affair on the night of Sept. 24, 2009. Additionally, the indictment alleges that Abby Hogan deleted multiple e-mails discussing the events leading up to and surrounding her husband's disappearance. The indictment also alleges that Abby Hogan instructed at least one person to conceal information from investigators.

The indictment is merely an allegation, and a defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

Abby Hogan faces a maximum of five years in prison for each false statement count and 20 years in prison for each count of witness tampering and obstruction of justice.

The case is being investigated by the U.S. Department of State, Diplomatic Security Service and the FBI's Miami Field Office and Legal Attaché Office in Bridgetown, Barbados. Assistance was also provided by Curacao law enforcement authorities.

James Hogan's body has never been found and his disappearance remains an unsolved mystery.

Prince Willem-Alexander and Princess Maxima travel by train for winter break



With their 'Triple A' daughters in tow, Prince Willem-Alexander and Princess Maxima headed to Lech, the Austrian town where the Dutch royal family have spent their winters for over 50 years.

Prince Willem-Alexander and Maxima of the Netherlands and their three daughters, Amelia, Alexia and Ariana surprised locals when they chose to travel by train to Austria, where they'll enjoy their last winter holiday as heirs to the Dutch throne.

On Friday the Prince of Orange, who will become King on April 30, boarded the train at Amsterdam Central Station

for the start of the east-bound journey to Lech.

Speaking in the station the excited future King said he was looking forward to enjoying the snow and tranquility of the Alps before facing one of the most important moments of his life, becoming King of the Netherlands.

The trip is tinged with sadness. On Sunday 24 the Dutch royal family are expected to attend a religious ceremony for Prince Friso, as it will be a year to the day that Willem-Alexander's brother went into a coma following a skiing accident whilst in Lech.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Protests erupt against anti-Shiite violence in Pakistan

QUETTA (AFP) - Protests erupted across Pakistan yesterday to demand protection for Shiite Muslims after a bomb blast targeting the minority community killed 81 people, the latest in a series of bloody sectarian attacks.

The bomb containing nearly a ton of explosives, hidden in a water tanker, tore through a crowded market in Hazara town, a Shiite-dominated area on the edge of Quetta, the capital of southwestern Baluchistan province, on Saturday evening.

Up to 4,000 women began a sit-in protest in the city on yesterday evening, blocking a road and refusing to bury victims until the authorities took action against the extremists behind the attack, which also wounded 178 people.

More than 1,500 Shiites took to the streets of the eastern city of Lahore to demand action and there were smaller demonstrations in the central city of Multan and Muzaffarabad, the main city of Pakistan-administered Kashmir.

Baluchistan has increasingly become a flashpoint for surging sectarian bloodshed

between Pakistan's majority Sunni Muslims and Shiites, who account for around a fifth of the country's 180 million people.

Saturday's attack takes the death toll in sectarian attacks in Pakistan this year to almost 200, compared with more than 400 in the whole of 2012 -- a year which Human Rights Watch described as the deadliest on record for the country's Shiites.

It was the second major attack on Shiites in Quetta this year, after a double suicide bombing on a snooker club in the city on January 10 killed at least 92 people, the deadliest ever single attack on the community in Pakistan.

No-one has been arrested for the snooker hall attack and Daud Agha, chairman of Shia Conference, told AFP anger was rising in the community.

Police and administration officials held negotiations with the Shiites to end Sunday's protest and bury the bodies, but community leaders told them that the sit-in would continue until a targeted operation against extremists is launched, he said.

US protesters urge Obama to act on global warming

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Tens of thousands of protesters gathered in Washington yesterday to urge President Barack Obama to take concrete measures to fight global warming.

Waving banners and signs with slogans like "what will be your climate legacy?" the protesters called on Obama to reject the Keystone XL pipeline that would bring oil from Canada to Texas, and order the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to set carbon standards for power plants.

The event was organized by local and national environmental groups, including the Sierra Club, under an umbrella group named Forward on Climate. The Sierra Club said that 30,000 demonstrators were at the event.

"It's a big deal because the world is watching us," said Canadian-born actress Evangeline Lilly, star of TV's "Lost."

"We want to challenge president Obama to be a main actor as opposed to being a puppet of the big oil companies," Lilly told AFP. "It's about telling him his speech did not fall in deaf ears."

Organizers claim the event will be the largest climate rally in US history, and includes protesters who have arrived aboard buses from 28 states.

The president mentioned climate change during his inauguration speech in January, and in Tuesday's State of the Union he vowed to take action "for the sake of our children and our future" if Congress fails to do so.

"I will direct my cabinet to come up with executive actions we can take, now and in the future, to reduce pollution, prepare our communities for the consequences of climate change, and speed the transition to more sustainable sources of energy," Obama said in his speech.

Celebrities who have signed a petition supporting the protesters include Alec Baldwin, Susan Sarandon, Morgan Freeman, Robert Kennedy Jr and Yoko Ono.

The rally comes after the United States last year endured record high temperatures and lengthy droughts, as well as

superstorm Sandy, which devastated the New York-New Jersey coastline.

To dramatize their demand for action against the \$7 billion Keystone XL pipeline protesters formed a "a human pipeline" -- a chain of people - between the National Mall and the White House.



NANTES -- AFP photo shows Serge Charnay pulling up a bag of food and water on 43-meter crane on February 17, 2013 in Nantes on the third day of a protest for his rights as a father. A second man climbed another crane on February 16 in "an act of solidarity" with Charnay, an action sanctioned by French association "SOS Papa" indicating that the two men are "victims of family justice in France", and a third joined Charnay on the crane yesterday.

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International News

Venezuela opposition politician to face crime charges



CARACAS (AFP) - Venezuela on week-end ordered opposition politician Leopoldo Lopez and his mother to show up at the prosecutor's office to face charges for "presumed irregularities" dating from 1998.

Lopez, 41, and his mother 66 year-old Antonieta Mendoza de Lopez, are accused of "presumed irregularities" concerning donations made by the state-run Petroleos de

Venezuela (PDVSA) to the Civil Association Justice First, a group that Lopez founded. The group became a political party in 2000.

Both have been ordered to appear at the prosecutor's office to be charged, the prosecution said in a statement, without detailing the charges.

Lopez, a charismatic politician with a winning smile, has led the center-right Popular

Will party since 2009.

In 2005, the office of the Comptroller General accused him of corruption and banned him from politics until 2014 for allegedly receiving illegal money from PDVSA and swindling money when he was mayor of the wealthy Caracas neighborhood of Cachao.

The cases were never brought to trial, and the Costa Rica-based Inter-American Court of Human Rights (IACHR) declared the Venezuelan ruling invalid.

Lopez was a top contender to run as the candidate for the unified opposition in the 2012 presidential election, but bowed out in favor of Henrique Capriles, who shares Lopez's telenovela-star looks. President Hugo Chavez defeated Capriles in the October presidential election.

The National Assembly, controlled by Chavez loyalists, opened a corruption probe on February 6 into two members of the Capriles' Justice First party, accusing them of illegally accepting campaign donations without reporting them.

Chavez is in Cuba recovering from a fourth round of cancer surgery.

The move against Lopez appears to be part of a concerted government campaign against the opposition: on Saturday Vice President Nicolas Maduro on state TV accused government critics in the "corrupt right" and "parasitic bourgeoisie" of plotting "a silent coup."

Maduro had earlier said that Capriles and another opposition leader, Gerardo Blyde, would be responsible for "any act of violence" in an ongoing student protest outside the Cuban embassy decrying the influence of Havana's communist regime in Venezuela.

White House defends behind-the-scenes immigration reform bid



WASHINGTON (AFP) - The White House defended its behind-the-scenes work on immigration reform Sunday after a plan leaked to the US media was panned by a key Republican as "half-baked and seriously flawed."

USA Today said the plan being drafted by administration and which is already circulating among various government agencies would allow illegal immigrants to become legal permanent US residents within eight years.

Republicans immediately attacked the plan and sharply criticized the White House for developing it without consulting them.

Senator Marco Rubio, who is leading Republican efforts on immigration legislation after his party's poor performance with Latino voters in November elections, said the president's plan would be

"dead on arrival" in Congress.

"This legislation is half-baked and seriously flawed," he said, adding, "It would actually make our immigration problems worse."

In his State of the Union address on Tuesday, Obama urged Congress to pass comprehensive immigration reform "in the next few months."

And eight senators -- four of Obama's Democratic allies and four Republicans -- unveiled a joint plan last month aiming to provide a legal status to illegal immigrants living on US soil.

White House chief of staff Denis McDonough insisted on Sunday that the administration was working intensely with the so-called "gang of eight," including Rubio.

Obama has warned that he will present his own immigration bill if Congress cannot soon come to an agreement, and the draft plan appeared



SANAA (AFP) - Yemeni authorities have freed a Dutch man held captive for a week after being kidnapped by tribesmen in the country's west, the interior ministry announced on Sunday. "Security forces freed a Dutch man kidnapped a week ago by tribesmen between the towns of Hard in Hajja province and Al-Zaidiya in Hodeida province," the ministry said in a statement on defence ministry news website 26sep.net. "The man was taken to Sanaa and is in good health," it added. Hundreds of people have been abducted in Yemen over the past 15 years, with almost all later released unharmed. The authorities are still trying to free two Finns and an Austrian snatched from central Sanaa late last year, however. Most kidnappings of foreigners in the impoverished Arabian Peninsula state are carried out by members of the country's powerful tribes who use them as bargaining chips in disputes with the central government.



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Health

WHO urges vigilance over SARS-like virus

GENEVA (AFP) - The World Health Organisation on Saturday urged countries to be vigilant over the spread of a potentially fatal SARS-like virus after a new case in Britain brought the global number to 12.

On Friday, British health authorities said that a third member of a family had been diagnosed with so-called novel coronavirus, but was not in danger.

"Although this new case offers further indications of person-to-person transmission, no sustained person-to-person transmission has been identified," said the WHO.

"Testing for the new coronavirus should be considered in patients with unexplained pneumonias, or in patients with unexplained severe, progressive or complicated respiratory illness not responding to treatment," it added.

Clusters of cases, and cases

among health workers, should be thoroughly investigated wherever they occur, it underlined.

Britain's Health Protection Agency said the latest person to contract the virus was a relative of two other cases announced earlier this week.

The first member of the family, who was confirmed on Monday as having the virus, had recently travelled to the Middle East and Pakistan. The two relatives had no recent travel history.

A total of 12 cases have been reported to the WHO, with five of them fatal -- three in Saudi Arabia and two in Jordan.

Coronaviruses are to blame for most common colds but can also cause SARS (severe acute respiratory syndrome).

A SARS epidemic killed more than 800 people when it swept out of China in 2003, sparking a major international health scare.

Spanish medical workers protest over cost-control efforts



MADRID (AFP) - Thousands of Spanish doctors, nurses and other health care workers, many wearing white lab coats, demonstrated Sunday in 16 cities against budget cuts and plans to partly privatise medical services.

They chanted, blew whistles and beat drums as they made their way through the streets of the Spanish capital, blocking traffic.

"There is no study that shows that privatising the management of hospitals leads to lower costs. This privatisation hurts patients' health care to benefit other interests," said Emilia Becares, a 46-year-old nurse who went to the protest with her three sons, aged seven, eight and nine.

The Madrid regional government plans to outsource the management of six of 20 large public hospitals and 27 health centres of the 270 in the region.

Spanish health care workers and many patients, who are fiercely protective of the public health system, say private providers will put profits before quality and fire thousands of support staff in favour of cheaper replacements.

"Many medications are no longer provided for free. I am here to defend the public health care system which we have built up over the years," said Carlos Moreno, a 52-year-old doctor who came to the protest decked out in his lab coat.

Smaller protests were held in other Spanish cities including Albacete, Cuenca and Segovia.

Nationally, Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy's government has slashed health spending by seven billion euros (\$9.1 billion) a year as part of a campaign to squeeze 150 billion euros out of the crisis-racked country's budget by 2014.

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Severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS)

-- Severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) is a serious form of pneumonia. It is caused by a virus that was first identified in 2003. Infection with the SARS virus causes acute respiratory distress (severe breathing difficulty) and sometimes death.

SARS is a dramatic example of how quickly world travel can spread a disease.

World Health Organization (WHO) physician Dr. Carlo Urbani identified SARS as a new disease in 2003. He diagnosed it in a 48-year-old businessman who had traveled from the Guangdong province of China, through Hong Kong, to Hanoi, Vietnam. The businessman and the doctor who first diagnosed SARS both died from the illness.

In the meantime, SARS was spreading. Quickly it infected thousands of people around the world.

The WHO identified SARS as a global health threat, and issued a travel advisory and even though the number of new cases dwindled and travel advisories began to be lifted, every new case had the potential to spark another outbreak.

SARS appears to be here to stay. It has changed the way that the world responds to infectious diseases during a time of widespread international travel. The 2003 outbreak had an estimated 8,000 cases and 750 deaths.

SARS is caused by a member of the coronavirus family of viruses (the same family that can cause the common cold). It is believed the 2003 epidemic started when the virus spread from small mammals in China.

When someone with SARS coughs or sneezes, infected droplets spray into the air. You can catch the SARS virus if you breathe in or touch these particles. The SARS virus may live on hands, tissues, and other surfaces for up to 6 hours in these droplets and up to 3 hours after the droplets have dried.

While the spread of droplets through close contact caused most of the early SARS cases, SARS might also spread by hands and other objects the droplets has touched. Airborne transmission is a real possibility in some cases. Live virus has even been found in the stool of people with SARS, where it has been shown to live for up to 4 days. The virus may be able to live for months or years when the temperature is below freezing.

With other coronaviruses, becoming infected and then getting sick again (re-infection) is common. This may also be the case with SARS.

Symptoms usually occur about 2 to 10 days after coming in contact with the virus. People with active symptoms of illness are contagious, but it

is not known for how long a person may be contagious before or after symptoms appear.

Symptoms

The hallmark symptoms are:

- Cough
 - Difficulty breathing
 - Fever greater than 100.4 degrees F (38.0 degrees C)
 - Other breathing symptoms
- The most common symptoms are:
- Chills and shaking
 - Cough -- usually starts 2-3 days after other symptoms
 - Fever
 - Headache
 - Muscle aches

Less common symptoms include:

- Cough that produces phlegm (sputum)
- Diarrhea
- Dizziness
- Nausea and vomiting
- Runny nose
- Sore throat

Avoid travel to places where there is an uncontrolled SARS outbreak.

-Hand hygiene is the most important part of SARS prevention. Wash your hands or clean them with an alcohol-based instant hand sanitizer.

-Cover your mouth and nose when you sneeze or cough.

-Do not share food, drink, or utensils.

-In some situations, masks and goggles may be useful for preventing the spread of the disease.

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Sci-Tech

Scientists turn eyes toward Europa in search for life



BOSTON (AFP) - US astronomers looking for life in the solar system believe that Europa, one of the moons of Jupiter, which has an ocean, is much more promising than desert-covered Mars, which is currently the focus of the US government's attention.

"Europa is the most likely place in our solar system beyond Earth to possess life," said Robert Pappalardo, a planetary scientist at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) in Pasadena, California.

"And it is the place we should be exploring now that we have a concept mission we think is the right one to get there for an affordable cost," he continued.

At the request of NASA, a proposed mission to explore Europa was revised to significantly reduce the cost, the scientist told the media on the sidelines of an annual conference of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) underway here.

As a result of this review, the JPL and the Applied Physics Laboratory at Johns Hopkins University in Maryland developed a new exploration project named Clipper with a total cost of two billion dollars minus the launch.

Following the successful ex-

ample of Cassini, a probe that explored Titan, a moon of Saturn, a spacecraft would orbit Jupiter and conduct numerous close flybys of Europa.

"That way we can get effectively global coverage of Europa by doing many many flybys," Pappalardo argued. "And that can do outstanding science -- not quite as good as an orbiter, but not that bad -- for half the cost, which is two billions dollars over the life of the mission excluding the launch."

If the plan is approved, Clipper could be launched by 2021 and take three to six years to reach Europa. By comparison, it takes six months to reach Mars.

But NASA already announced at the end of 2012 that there will be no funds for the Clipper mission in the current atmosphere of budgetary cuts, he said.

A high scientific priority

However, the space agency announced in December that it was sending to Mars in 2020 a new robot similar to Curiosity, a project that cost an estimated \$2.5 billion.

Curiosity, which arrived on the Red Planet in August 2012, is trying to find out whether life was possible on Mars in the past.

Under the current plans of

robotic exploration, after the arrival of the probe Juno to Jupiter's orbit in 2016 and its planned crash a year later, the United States will no longer have probes in the distant reaches of the solar system.

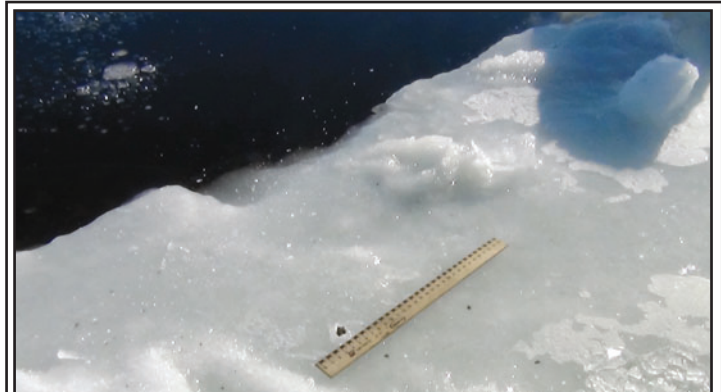
NASA could, however, participate in a mission to Jupiter by the European Space Agency (ESA) called "Jupiter Icy Moon Explorer," during which a spacecraft is expected to arrive to its destination around 2030.

Noting that Mars consumed most attention in the course of NASA's exploration of the solar system, Pappalardo said the agency should not ignore planets that have a high scientific priority.

In his view, life could have existed on Mars several billion years ago, but Europa could have life today.

"If Europa is the best place in the solar system after Earth to host life, Encelade (a Saturn Moon) is right up there as well," said Amanda Hendrix, a senior scientist at the Planetary Science Institute in Tucson, Arizona. "It has at least a sub-surface sea, if not an ocean, and there is geological activity."

Europa was closely observed for the first time by the twin Voyager probes in 1979 and then, in more detail, by Galileo in the 1990s.



RUSSIAN FEDERATION (AFP) : A handout photo taken and provided by Chelyabinsk region police department shows a small object laying near a ruler at the edge of a six-metre (20-foot) hole in the ice of a frozen lake, reportedly the site of a meteor fall, outside the town of Chebakul in the Chelyabinsk region. Divers scoured today the bottom of a Russian lake for fragments of a meteorite that plunged to Earth in a blinding fireball whose shockwave injured 1,200 people and damaged thousands of homes.



REYJKAVIK - Iceland is working on banning Internet pornography, calling explicit online images a threat to children. Iceland has had laws banning the printing and distribution of pornography for years, but those laws haven't been updated to include the Web. And two years ago, the nation's parliament banned strip clubs, saying they violate the rights of the women who work in them. Such a step is somewhat surprising among Western nations that, for the most part, champion free-speech rights. But the move wouldn't be unprecedented in the island nation. Iceland would become the first Western democracy to try and block pornography online.

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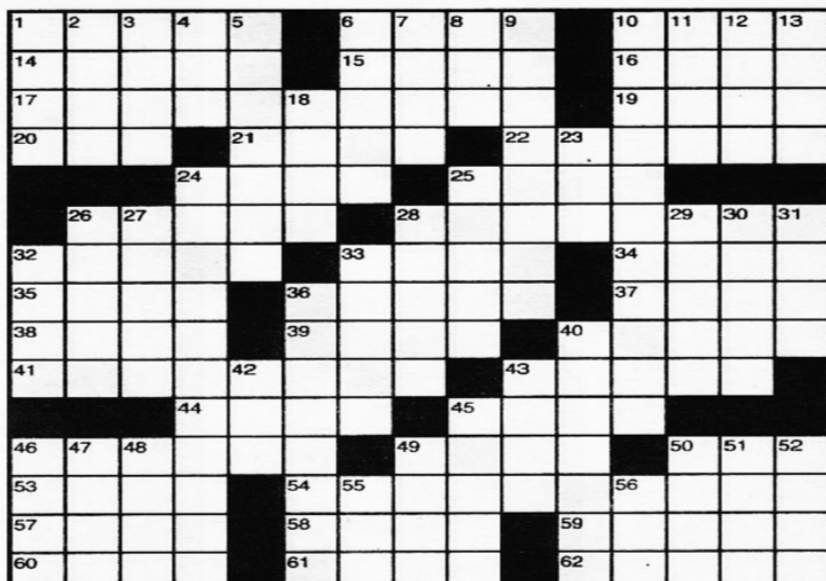
ACROSS

1. Phoenix source
6. Luau instruments, for short
10. Foretoken
14. Censoring sound
15. Meter maid of song
16. Toledo's lake
17. Vermont college
19. Dudley Do-Right's sweetie
20. Promos
21. European animals
22. Resides
24. Angler's large-mouth prey
25. One from Belgrade
26. Fred's "Lady Be Good"
28. Serial segments
32. Rotates
33. Figure skater's jump
34. Bean type
35. Tomato plant's support
36. "Natural History" author
37. Devilish
38. Etcher's fluid
39. Director Martin
40. Boring time, slangily
41. Emeritus ones
43. Covenants
44. Action-comedy star Jackie
45. One little piggy got this
46. "___, the piper's son..."

49. What a sweep sweeps
50. Newswoman Lindstrom
53. Asian range
54. Jeremy's utilitarian philosophy
57. Harness part
58. Beast's abode
59. Daughter: Fr.
60. Corn dish
61. Feminine ending
62. Barkin of films

DOWN

1. "Dancing Queen" group
2. Winter transport
3. Poultry
4. Poesy time
5. Continuous cost increases
6. Exhorts
7. Hobbyists' purchases
8. WWII area
9. Fragrant, stemless flower
10. Saint's characteristic
11. City south of Moscow
12. Pickle type
13. Snaky swimmers
18. Hialeah margin
23. "It ___ the best of times..." (Dickens)
24. Certain monk
25. Used up
26. Rapidly
27. Finger or toe
28. Egresses
29. Golfer's leftover
30. Arab princes
31. Mall lure
32. Capone's facial feature
33. "Third Rock" character, e.g.
36. It starts "We, the people..."
40. The ___ Trail
42. Before sigma
43. Disdainful cry
45. ___ Dame Cathedral
46. Drop cloth, for short
47. Dairy-case item
48. Primary
49. Mini-tantrum
50. Medicinal unit
51. Dot on a map
52. Hymn finale
55. Have supper
56. Diameter measure

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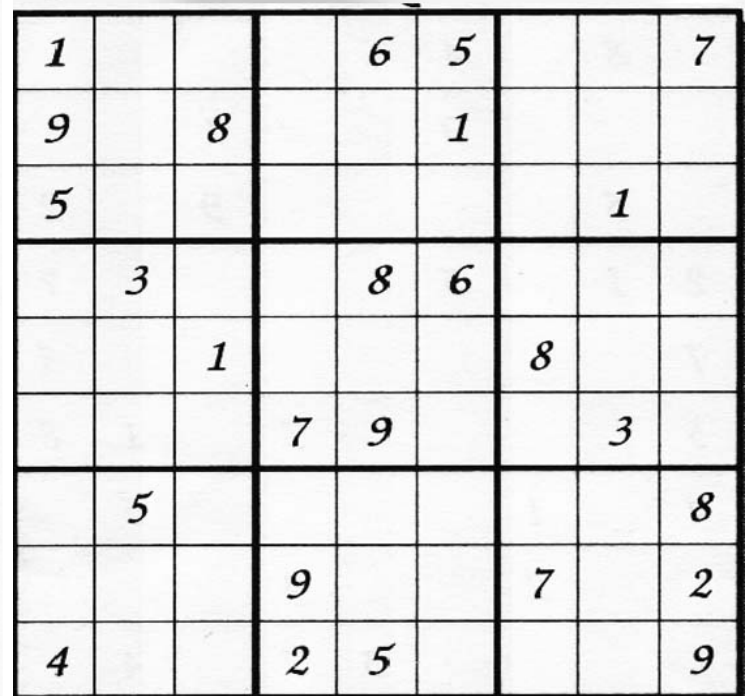
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Sudoku



SOLUTION

6	9	1	5	2	7	8	4	3
2	5	7	8	4	9	1	6	3
8	4	9	1	6	5	2	7	3
1	5	9	7	6	2	8	3	4
4	7	8	2	5	1	6	9	3
5	6	2	9	8	1	7	4	3
9	1	4	6	7	8	5	2	3
3	2	5	1	7	4	9	6	8
7	8	6	5	9	2	3	1	4

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9



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FINANCE

Facebook gets a \$429M tax refund for 2012, despite record profits



Facebook made \$1.1 billion in pre-tax profits in 2012, which means wealth for shareholders, revenue for the government, everyone wins and, yay, capitalism! Right? Wrong. The company will get a \$429 million tax REFUND from the Internal Revenue Service, because of how stock options and awards are treated by the tax code. This has tax advocacy groups hopping mad. Citizens for Tax Justice called the fact that Facebook "did not pay even a dime in federal and state income taxes ... an amazing admission." And for those folks, there's more outrage coming: Facebook can reduce future tax bills by reserving an additional \$2.1 billion in stock-option tax breaks to write off against its liabilities. So far, the company has declined to comment

G-20 takes harder line on currencies

Group of 20 finance chiefs sharpened their stance against governments trying to influence exchange rates as they

sought to tame speculation of a global currency war without singling out Japan for criticism.

Two days of talks between G-20 finance ministers and central bankers late Saturday with a pledge not to "target our exchange rates for competitive purposes," according to a statement. That's stronger than their position three months ago and leaves Japanese officials under pressure to stop publicly giving guidance on their currency's value.

With the yen near its lowest level against the dollar since 2010, policy makers are attempting to soothe the concern that some countries are trying to weaken exchange rates to spur growth through exports.

SATURDAY'S Crossword Answer

A	F	E	W		D	N	A		E	T	T	E					
F	I	L	E		B	E	E	C	H		X	R	A	Y			
A	X	E	L		E	R	A	T	O		P	A	L	E			
R	E	C	L	I	N	E	R		N	O	O	S	E	S			
					D	O	C	K		H	O	A	R				
					B	O	T	H		B	A	R	S	T	O	O	L
A	R	E	N	A		F	I	R	S	T		G	T	O			
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C	H	E		A	G	N	E	S		F	L	E	E	S			
A	R	M	C	H	A	I	R		D	E	E	D					
					H	A	M	S		R	I	T	A				
R	E	P	O	S	E		L	O	V	E	S	E	A	T			
O	V	E	R		R	E	E	V	E		A	R	N	O			
M	E	R	E		S	E	D	E	R		N	I	K	E			
P	R	E	S		L	A	D			T	E	A	S				

Summary of the Monthly Bulletin of November 2012 shows: Aruba broad money expanded

ORANJESTAD -- During the month of November 2012, money supply expanded by Afl. 48.1 million to Afl. 3,331.8 million, resulting from rises in both net domestic assets and net foreign assets (excluding revaluation differences of gold and foreign exchange holdings) of, respectively, Afl. 40.3 million and Afl. 7.8 million.

The growth in the net domestic assets was because the Afl. 6.6 million net claim of the public sector on the banking sector recorded at the end of October 2012 turned into an Afl. 55.2 million net liability of the public sector to the banking sector, largely due to a decline of Afl. 56.5 million in government deposits related to the repayment of matured bonds. Non-credit related balance sheet items, on the other hand, decreased by Afl. 28.7 million, caused by clearing transactions. Furthermore, claims on the private sector picked up by Afl. 7.2 million (+0.3 percent), reflecting increases in commercial loans and housing mortgages of, respectively, Afl. 6.0 million (+0.5 percent) and Afl. 4.5 million (+0.5 percent), while consumer credit dropped by Afl. 3.2 million (-0.6 percent).

The consumer price index (CPI) for November 2012 registered a 3.5 percent decrease, compared to the same month of 2011. The main

contributors to this drop were housing, clothing & footwear, household operation, and recreation & culture. Excluding the effect of food and energy (which partly affects the housing and transport components), the core CPI showed a 0.3 percent decrease compared to November 2011, brought about mostly by declines in the index categories of women's clothing, household operation, and audio visual equipment. The pace of the 12-month average inflation rate fell to 1.4 percent in November 2012, down from 2.2 percent in October 2012.

In November 2012, the number of stay-over visitors totaled 73,240, which is 9.9 percent (+6,613 visitors) higher than in November 2011. This growth was caused mainly by increases in the number of visitors from Latin America and North America of, respectively, 35.7 percent (+4,931 visitors) and 3.4 percent (+1,491 visitors). The Latin American market continued to expand, attributed mostly to increases in visitors from Venezuela of 37.2 percent (+3,315 visitors) and Colombia of 71.8 percent (+806 visitors). In the North American market, arrivals from the U.S.A. and Canada grew by, respectively, 2.1 percent (+874 visitors) and 19.9 percent (+617 visitors). The European market, on the

other hand, declined by 117 visitors (-1.9 percent) in November 2012, compared to November 2011. The largest drops were registered in arrivals from Italy (-220 visitors) and the Netherlands (-54 visitors).

The number of cruise visitors fell by 5,093 or 7.0 percent to 67,998 in the month of November 2012, compared to the same month of the previous year. The number of ship calls declined from 39 to 35 in November 2012, compared to the corresponding month a year earlier.

In November 2012, registered tax revenue totaled Afl. 72.2 million, a decrease of Afl. 9.0 million or 11.1 percent, compared to the same month of the previous year. This drop was associated mostly with declines in revenue from foreign exchange tax, profit tax, land tax, and transfer tax of, respectively, Afl. 5.4 million, Afl. 4.3 million, Afl. 4.0 million, and Afl. 2.0 million. These declines were partially offset by higher revenue from taxes on income and commodities, and turnover tax (BBO) of, respectively, Afl. 3.0 million, Afl. 2.3 million, and Afl. 0.7 million. Non-tax receipts recorded a fall of Afl. 5.7 million in November 2012, compared to the same month of last year.



BARCELONA -- People attend a demonstration called by the organisation Platform for Mortgage Victims (PAH) to push for a new law to end a wave of evictions of homeowners ruined by the economic crisis, on February 16, 2013 in Barcelona. Similar protests were called in 50 other Spanish cities, the latest of months of demonstrations driven by anger at Spain's recession and the conservative government, which is imposing austere economic reforms. Campaigners passed a rare milestone on February 12, 2013 when the Spanish parliament agreed to debate a popular bill of measures to protect poor homeowners, backed by a petition that received more than 1.4 million signatures. Placard reads "More than 1,300,000 families without housing and with debts." (AFP PHOTO)

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18 ancient Odyssey mosaics stolen in Syria: minister

DAMASCUS (AFP) - At least 18 ancient mosaics depicting scenes from Homer's "The Odyssey" have been stolen in northern Syria, the culture minister said.

"These mosaics were stolen during illegal excavations" on archaeological sites in the war-torn country's northeast, Lubana Mushaweh said in an interview published on Sunday by the government daily Tishreen.

As the nearly two-year Syrian revolt has morphed into an armed insurgency, experts say fierce fighting and deteriorating security have left the country's extraordinary archaeological heritage susceptible to damage and prey to a rising number of looters.

Mushaweh admitted that her ministry faced great difficulties in "safeguarding 10,000 historical sites scattered around Syria. The minister said that an Aramaic gold-plated bronze statue was stolen from the Hama museum

Among Syria's archeological treasures are six UNESCO world heritage sites: the Old Cities of Damascus and Aleppo, the ruins of Palmyra, the ancient city of Bosra, Crac des Chevaliers crusader castle, the citadel of Saladin and the ancient northern villages.

Pope calls for Church to 'renew', thousands flock to penultimate Angelus

VATICAN CITY (AFP) - Pope Benedict XVI called on the Church and its faithful on Sunday to "renew themselves" as tens of thousands of pilgrims and tourists attended his penultimate Angelus prayers.

"The Church calls on all its members to renew themselves... which constitutes a fight, a spiritual battle, because the evil spirit wants us to deviate from the road towards God," he told the crowds from his window overlooking St Peter's Square.

Families with young children, pensioners and nuns packed into the square in the sunshine said they had come to pay their respects to the pope, make their goodbyes or just share in a historic event ahead of Benedict's resignation.

Groups of scouts held up banners reading "We have loved you so much!" and "We will be with you... always" and said they wanted to show Benedict that his shock decision to stand down on February 28 had not shaken their faith in him.

"He has done it for the good of the Church, and will keep serving us. He is retiring to pray -- and God knows we need his prayers!" said Germana Blaiotta.

A serene-looking Benedict waved to the crowds and thanked them for turning out in such large numbers, calling it a "sign of affection and spiritual closeness", as the onlookers called out "viva il papa" (long live the pope).

The Vatican said over 50,000 people had turned out to see the 85-year-old pope, while local authorities put the



number at over 100,000.

Benedict, whose surprise announcement last Monday that he would step down after eight years rocked the Church, called on the world's faithful to "refocus on God by disowning pride and egoism".

His words were seen by some to hold a veiled reference to internal bickering within the Church in recent months, as well as the jostle for power as cardinals from all over the world prepare to vote in his successor.

"Benedict did everything for the Church, he was always in the limelight but they did nothing but criticise him and try and undermine him. Whoever follows him will have to have strong nerves," said Margherita Yager, 61, from Germany.

Christine Renier, a 48-year-old teacher from Paris, said she was in Rome on holiday and had wanted to see the pontiff before he retires to a secluded monastery behind the Vatican walls for a life of contemplation.

Amid speculation over which of the 117 cardinals in the running might snap up the Vatican's top job, Italian media said Cardinal Angelo Scola, the Archbishop of Milan, was among the favourites backed by Benedict.

After meeting the pope Saturday, Scola said Benedict had told him "you have to become a light for everyone", a phrase pounced on by the media as a clue.

"Significant words which will be weighed by everyone," said the Repubblica, while La Stampa agreed they were "meaningful words".

At St Peter's Square, tourists snapping souvenir photographs of Benedict on their smart phones said he may have revolutionised the papacy.

"This is a moment which will go down in history. He's opened the door to future resignations and I cannot see anyone suffering through an old age as pope again. From now on they'll retire," said Michele Agostino, 66.

Later Sunday, the pontiff will start a week-long spiritual retreat and have only very few public engagements before he formally steps down -- the first to resign voluntarily in 700 years.

Benedict will receive Italian President Giorgio Napolitano on February 23, celebrate his last Angelus prayer on February 24 and hold a final audience in St Peter's Square with tens of thousands of followers on February 27.

Plus-sized models carve out corner of London Fashion Week



LONDON (AFP) - On weekend, an alternative to London Fashion Week celebrated the larger lady and all her curves. Here, elegantly-dressed women browse racks of clothes designed for European size 40 (UK size 12, US size 8 or 10) and upwards, snacking intermittently from plates of crisps and cupcakes spread around the venue -- food here is not taboo. The two-day event featured discussions, tutorials by bloggers and a final catwalk show featuring established and first-time models. Wearing skirts, shorts or bikinis, the women were greeted with enthusiastic applause as they walked out on the runway, with the audience encouraging every display of confidence. While many of the models could only be described as voluptuous, some of the clothes on offer were not what many people think of as plus-sized.

Steak on a Stone-Le Petit Café's specialty



In a time when dining choices and critiques are based on value for your dollar, an old favorite, Le Petit Café, still offers one of the best values not only in price, but quality,

quantity and ambiance.

Le Petit Café in Palm Beach offers charming surroundings reminiscent of a European outdoor café. Surrounded by Old World

gaslights and an abundance of flora, it provides a delightful and romantic setting. Taking advantage of their Early Bird Special not only offers a great price for a delicious meal.

The Early Bird special offers a choice of a full sized chicken breast, a hefty portion of filet mignon or fresh grouper fillet accompanied by a well-stuffed baked potato, rice or french fries. There is a choice of soup or salad as a starter, and ice cream for dessert, all for a modest \$24.95; an unbeatable price for a great meal on Aruba!

Cooking your main course on the stone is a supremely healthy method of preparation, seasoned to perfection and using no fats or oils. Fish in particular is excellent; extremely moist and tasty. A thick cut of filet mignon usually requires cutting into smaller sections to cook fully, especially if your preference is medium-well to well done.

Le Petit Café is particularly well known for its "Land and Sea" specialty, filet mignon and lobster tail; a gourmet treat when served in their sig-



Fish on a Stone

nature fashion. The restaurant also offers a diverse menu of pastas and tempting gourmet appetizers such as seafood crepes, crispy calamari, and escargot. For family members in the mood for something different there are several dishes to choose from, such as chicken parmesan, so a large family with different ideas of what they want for dinner can easily be accommodated.

We all know that breakfast is the most important meal of the day, and Le Petit Café has

also long been famous for the best value for breakfast on Aruba. They still offer a full breakfast for \$9.99, another unbeatable value!

Le Petit Café also serves Lunch! Le Petit Café is located at The Playa Linda Beach Resort, so whether you are staying in Oranjestad, Palm Beach or Eagle Beach, La Petit Café restaurant can be found only a short way from your resort, a perfect way to begin or end your day!

Gold Coast Aruba: This is the time to invest

Management of Gold Coast Aruba, the island's newest and most innovative gated community, reports that sales have been very good and encouraging as the global economy recovers and people looking to purchase vacation homes have found that Gold Coast is an outstanding investment value. Director of Sales, Fito Croes has noticed a surprising percentage of owners in reality do not spend a great amount of time personally to use the villas or town homes they purchase, but are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their "home away from home" in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," he remarked, "but I am gratified by how many are buying because they felt secure with real estate investment on Aruba. They really study the history and economy of the island and are impressed with the political stability and continually increasing value of prime locations. Gold Coast is in the heart of Malmok, considered Aruba's most exclusive community where the value of properties has only increased over time. It is only minutes to the best beaches



and all the action, and yet offers a quiet and secluded getaway; we are very pleased by the response to our concept."

Fito, with his sister Mayrin and brother Rudy operate Cas Bon, which has been constructing homes and building developments for all budgets for nearly twenty years. "Gold Coast Aruba is the jewel in our crown," observes Fito. "We were very excited about this project and the scope of actual and planned facilities and amenities. We have spoken to countless island visitors to find out what they would really want in a permanent residence on Aruba, and took from there."

Input from frequent vacationers who have dreamed of their own home in Aruba contributed to the realization of

Gold Coast Aruba which when complete will be a community of 260 town homes, villas and condominiums with a stunning clubhouse complemented by two additional community pool areas. The Clubhouse is about to start construction and will offer to the community homeowners and visitors 2 tennis courts, full service spa and fitness center as well as a stunning pool area and is expected to be complete by early 2013. It will also house a restaurant and mini-market.

Owners who purchased upon the groundbreaking only a few short years ago, are already enjoying a nearly 50% appreciation on their investment, particularly those taking advantage of the on site management's rental services program. There is always a great

demand for Aruba and facilities such as those at Gold Coast, make it easy for some owners to see a valuable return on their investment.

The design of the residences and public areas is open, airy and spacious, taking full advantage of the island environment, with quality construction and finishing available. Partnering with two of Aruba's top providers of kitchens and bathrooms enables developers to offer custom options allowing buyers to individualize their homes. An elegant and chic furniture package is available or island designers will assist owners in finishing the décor to their specific tastes.

There are many aspects to purchasing property; not the least is the future value of the

investment. To further enhance this, Gold Coast management have inaugurated a number of in-house services and have recently become affiliated Interval International, the world's largest network of vacation ownership properties which provides an unlimited international pool of investors to tap for ownership and rental prospects. Property exchange for a vacation in another destination is also available through the Interval International affiliation. Gold Coast's own rental services have also proven highly successful in assisting owners in renting their villas; 24-hour security and maintenance services also tip the scales when it is time to make a decision. Aside from all this, housekeeping, child care, catering services, car rental through its partnership with AVIS car rental are also available as well as pre-shopping services so cupboards and refrigerators are stocked upon arrival, which can also be arranged through their property management department. Personnel are also available to assist in arranging restaurant reservations and island activities.

Visit their website: www.goldcoastaruba.com for more details and availability or call 586-2200 to arrange a personal tour.

SPORTS

Tennis: Nadal casts off injury woes to triumph in Brazil



SAO PAULO (AFP) - Rafael Nadal showed he is back in business by clinching his first tournament title since ending a seven-month knee injury lay-off, winning the Brazil Open here Sunday.

The Spanish former world number one, who has been complaining of nagging knee pain, beat Argentine David Nalbandian in straight sets 6-2, 6-3 in 78 minutes.

Currently the world number five, Nadal went on the attack from the start, breaking his opponent's service before racing to take the first set.

The 31-year-old Nalbandian, a former world number three who now languishes in 93rd place in the ATP rankings, fought back early in the second set but Nadal came from behind to win the match, sparking wild cheers from the crowd.

The Spaniard pocketed a check of \$82,300 for his win

and thanked the public for "the great support" he received throughout the tournament.

Nadal was the top seed in this \$455,775 tournament, his second comeback event following his long absence.

He competed in the Vina del Mar Open in Chile earlier this month, losing the singles and doubles finals last Sunday.

Considered by many to be the best ever clay-court player, Nadal was back on the court in Chile for the first time since suffering a surprise second-round exit at Wimbledon in June.

Since then he has been sidelined by a torn tendon and inflammation in his left knee, with his return this year further delayed by a stomach virus.

The world number five, who has 11 Grand Slam titles under his belt, also won the Brazil Open in 2005, when it was held in Costa do Sauipe in eastern Bahia state.

Tennis: Azarenka beats Serena to retain Qatar title



DOHA (AFP) - Victoria Azarenka beat Serena Williams 7-6 (8/6), 2-6, 6-3 to retain her Qatar Open title on Sunday, only her second win in 13 meetings with the American. It was also completed back-to-back trophy defences for the Belarusian who last month defended the Australian Open title. Azarenka, who will nevertheless lose the world number one ranking to Williams on Monday, served superbly in the first and third sets of her win, reducing the 15-time Grand Slam title-winner's opportunities to unleash her ferocious ground strokes. It prevented a triumphant epilogue to Williams' recapture of the world number one position after an interval of two and a half years, and denied the tennis legend the 42nd title of her career.

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Baseball: Yanks' Jeter expects to be ready for Opening Day

TAMPA (AFP) - New York Yankees shortstop Derek Jeter says he expects to be ready for Major League Baseball's Opening Day after recovering from the broken left ankle that ended his 2012 campaign.

Jeter needed surgery to repair the fracture suffered in the 12th inning of a 6-4 loss to the Detroit Tigers in the opening game of the American League Championship Series last October.

"Opening Day has been the goal all along," Jeter said Sunday at the team's Florida training base. The Yankees are slated to take on the Boston Red Sox in their season opener on April 1.

Jeter, 38, said the ankle has healed but he hasn't yet tested it fully with running on the field and he doesn't expect to play when spring training games begin next weekend.

The 13-time All-Star played in 159 games last year, his most since 2005.

He batted .316 with 15 homers and 58 runs batted in. He led the American League with 216 hits and finished seventh in the American League Most Valuable Player voting.

Jeter had surgery a week after he was hurt fielding a ground ball in the ALCS opener, which Detroit went on to sweep in four games. He acknowledged that the arduous rehabilitation made for a "terrible" offseason.

Football: Messi hits 300th Barcelona goal in comeback win



MADRID (AFP) - Barcelona assistant manager Jordi Roura hailed 300-goal Lionel Messi after the Argentine's double helped his side come from a goal down to beat Granada 2-1.

Messi's first goal was also his 300th in a Barcelona jersey and Roura was particularly relieved for his efficiency in front of goal on a night when some of his teammates had passed up a number clear chances. "What am I going to say? It is something extraordinary," he told reporters.

Roura was also happy with how his side responded after Odion Ighalo had fired the hosts into the lead against the run of play on 26 minutes.

"The result is very good but I don't think it was the only good thing. We weren't clinical in front of goal, but these players love to compete and after the first goal we have gone

until the end and managed to come back," he said.

Full-back Jordi Alba also highlighted Messi as the decisive factor in the match but believes Granada have improved sufficiently in recent weeks to give them more than a fighting chance of surviving the drop.

And soon after the Argentine had his 301st goal as he curled home a sumptuous free-kick.

Roura had taken the opportunity to rest Andres Iniesta ahead their Champions League tie with AC Milan in midweek, whilst Xavi was again missing through injury.

Victory extended Barca's lead at the top to 15 points over Atletico Madrid and 19 over Real Madrid with both capital clubs in action against Valladolid and Rayo Vallecano respectively on Sunday.

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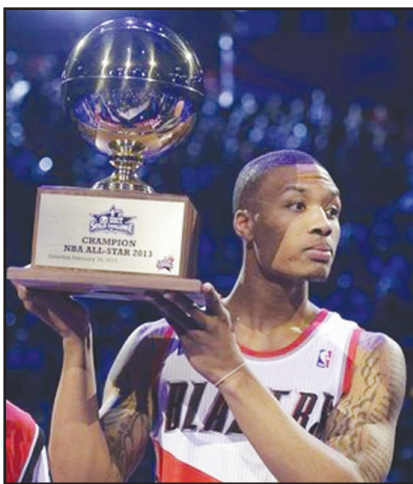
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NBA: Lillard outshines Lin, Parker to win Skills Challenge

HOUSTON (AFP) - Portland Trail Blazers rookie Damian Lillard captured the NBA Skills Challenge on Saturday, outclassing Houston's Jeremy Lin and 2012 winner Tony Parker of San Antonio.

The obstacle course event -- which makes players dribble, shoot and pass -- was part of the All-Star festivities on the eve of Sunday's NBA All-Star Game. They also included the Three-Point Contest won by Cleveland's Kyrie Irving.

Irving made 17 of his first 18 three-point attempts in the final round on his way to scoring 23 points and defeating San Antonio's Matt Bonner,



who finished with 20.

In the Skills Challenge opening round, Lillard completed the course in 28.8 seconds to oust Lin, the NBA's first Asian-American player, and Frenchman Parker.

Lin, whose parents are from Taiwan, completed the course in 35.8, while Parker

struggled to finish in 48.7. Parker failed to match Dwyane Wade and Steve Nash as multiple winners in the decade-old event.

Lillard advanced to the final against Philadelphia's Jrue Holiday, whose preliminary run of 29.3 ousted Detroit's Brandon Knight and Atlanta's Jeff Teague.

Holiday opened at 35.6, but Lillard followed with a winning effort of 29.8 that was punctuated with a finishing slam dunk.

Irving scored 18 points in the preliminary round of the Three-Point Contest to advance past New York's Steve Novak with 17 and Indiana's Paul George with 10.

Bonner had eliminated Golden State's Stephen Curry with 17 and Ryan Anderson on New Orleans with 18.

Ross dethrones Evans to win Slam Dunk crown



HOUSTON (AFP) - Terrence Ross of the Toronto Raptors dethroned defending champion Jeremy Evans of Utah to win the NBA Slam Dunk Contest on Saturday in a world-wide vote on social media. After a judging panel of retired NBA players that included Chinese legend Yao Ming narrowed the field to the finalists, Ross slammed two spectacular dunks through the rim to win 58 percent of fan votes via Twitter and websites. "It's a dream come true," Ross said.

Bloodied cricket bat found....continued from page 16

Police are investigating whether the bat was used to assault Steenkamp, who was shot four times in the early hours of Thursday, or if she used it to defend herself.

"The suspicion is that the first shot, in the bedroom, hit her in the hip. She then ran and hid herself in the toilet... He fire three more shots," a police source told City Press.

The paper said he could have experienced "roid rage", aggressive behaviour linked to taking large doses of steroids, describing the case against Pistorius as "rock-solid".

Other reports suggested there had been a fight between the two lovers that had spilled over from Wednesday night when neighbours called security guards complaining about a "commotion" inside the Pistorius house.

Police on Sunday refused to comment on the case.

Pistorius -- a national icon who inspired people around the world when he became the

first double amputee to compete against able-bodied athletes in the Olympic Games last year -- is spending the weekend in a police cell.

He is due to apply for bail at a new court hearing on Tuesday, the same day a memorial service will be held for his slain girlfriend. He faces a life sentence if convicted of premeditated murder.

His father Henke Pistorius, 59, told Britain's Sunday Telegraph that the family had "zero doubt" his son shot Steenkamp on instinct after mistaking her for an intruder.

Pistorius, who broke down sobbing in his first court appearance on Friday, has built up a powerful team of lawyers, pathologists and public relations experts for his defence.



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Tennis: Del Potro bloodied but unbowed in title win



ROTTERDAM (AFP) - Juan Martin del Potro underlined his indoor credentials as he overcame a bleeding nose to beat Frenchman Julien Benneteau 7-6 (7/2), 6-3 in the Rotterdam Open final on Sunday.

Del Potro, the 2009 US Open winner, claimed his fourth trophy indoors but had to play the last game with a nostril packed with cotton wool after suffering another of his occasional nosebleeds.

In the previous game, Ben-

neteau had saved four match points as he held on in a desperate attempt to pick up his first title in eight ATP finals.

Del Potro, the Argentina second seed, could barely contain his joy after winning in Rotterdam a year after losing the final to Roger Federer.

But this time the Swiss star

had fallen in the quarter-finals to an inspired performance from Benneteau, leaving the way clear for del Potro.

Del Potro becomes the second Argentine to win in Rotterdam, more than 30 years after Guillermo Vilas, who lifted the trophy in 1982 and finished runner-up a year later.

Benneteau missed a chance to become the fifth French player to win a Rotterdam title. "I can only congratulate Juan Martin," he said. "I did my best but he was just too good for me today. He was too strong. I will still fight to finally try and win a trophy."

continues on page 15

Bloodied cricket bat found at Pistorius home: report



JOHANNESBURG (AFP) - South African police have found a bloodied cricket bat at the home of Oscar Pistorius, a local newspaper reported Sunday, following the Valentine's Day killing of his model girlfriend.

The star Olympian and Paralympian athlete was charged on Friday with the murder of 29-year-old Reeva Steenkamp who was shot dead at his luxury Pretoria home in a case that has gripped the world.

His father said in a newspaper interview published Sunday that there was "zero doubt" his son had mistaken

his blonde covergirl girlfriend for an intruder, a suggestion the South African police have dismissed.

Pistorius's family has described the 26-year-old as "numb with shock as well as grief" over the death of Steenkamp, and rejected the murder allegations.

Police sources close to the investigation told South Africa's independent City Press newspaper that Steenkamp's skull had been "crushed". "There was lots of blood on the bat," one source said.

continues on page 15



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